

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SAJ-01 SAM-01 ACDA-19

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DRAFTED BY EUR/P:MWJERABEK/VRM

APPROVED BY CWG: WKONTOS

S/S-O - R. KUCHEL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NATO CAPITALS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE

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E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR CY

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING JULY 24 - CYPRUS

FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT NOON PRESS BRIEFING  
JULY 24 DEALING WITH THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS.

QUOTE

MR. ANDERSON: I HAVE TWO ANNOUNCEMENTS TO MAKE. THE  
FIRST CONCERNS CYPRUS.

THE UNITED STATES IS CONDUCTING ITS RELATIONS WITHMR.  
CLERIDES WHO, ACCORDING TO THE CYPRUS CONSTITUTION, HAS  
THE RIGHT TO ACT AS PRESIDENT UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

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AND THE OTHER STATEMENT CONCERNS PRIME MINISTER

KARAMANLIS' RETURN TO ATHENS.

WE WELCOME THE NEW GOVERNMENT AND LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH IT BILATERALLY AND IN THE NATO FRAMEWORK.

Q: DOES THAT CONSTITUTE RECOGNITION OF CLERIDES?

A: THE QUESTION --YOU'VE HEARD ME SAY THIS, I THINK, FOR THE LAST TEN DAYS -- THE QUESTION OF RECOGNITION DOES NOT ARISE. WE ARE CONDUCTING OUR RELATIONS WITH MR. CLERIDES. AND WE LEAVE IT AT THAT.

Q: CAN YOU TELL US WHETHER THE STATEMENT YOU JUST MADE ON CYPRUS WOULD UNDERSCORE A VIEW THAT THE CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS IN CYPRUS IS ENDED OR THAT THE RETURN TO CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER IS UNDER WAY?

A: I THINK THAT THE STATEMENT THAT I MADE INDICATES THAT MR. CLERIDES, WHO WAS THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THERE, AND, ACCORDING TO THE CONSTITUTION HE CAN BECOME ACTING PRESIDENT; AND THE STATEMENT SAYS "ACCORDING TO THE CYPRUS CONSTITUTION," SO I THINK THE SHORT ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION IS "YES, THE CYPRUS CONSTITUTION IS BEING LIVED UP TO HERE."

Q: DO WE STILL RECOGNIZE MAKARIOS AS PRESIDENT AND CLERIDES AS ONLY INTERIM OR ACTING PRESIDENT?

A: I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO ANYTHING ABOUT THE PRESENT STATUS OF ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS. I JUST STAND ON WHAT I SAID WITH REGARD TO MR. CLERIDES.

Q: DOES THE UNITED STATES FORESEE A ROLE FOR ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS AT THE GENEVA TALKS, WHERE HE SAYS HE WILL BE GOING?

A: I HAVE NO COMMENT ON THAT.

Q: IT SEEMS TO BE RELEVANT IN THIS, IF WE RECOGNIZE CLERIDES AS ACTING PRESIDENT, FOR WHOM IS HE ACTING?  
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A: HE IS THE ACTING PRESIDENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CYPRUS CONSTITUTION.

Q: DO WE FEEL THAT MAKARIOS WAS REMOVED BY CONSTITUTIONAL MEANS, IS NO LONGER PRESIDENT?

A: I JUST DON'T WANT TO COMMENT ON ANY OF THAT PAST

HISTORY HERE.

Q: IS MR. KISSINGER GOING TO MEET WITH MAKARIOS ON MONDAY AS PLANNED?

A: THAT STILL IS ON THE CALENDAR, YES.

Q: WHAT IS THE ARRANGEMENT ON GENEVA? WHEN IS IT NOW SCHEDULED?

A: IT IS NOT SET YET. POSSIBLY TOMORROW. I CHECKED INTO THIS JUST BEFORE I CAME DOWN.

" " ;

Q: WHERE IS MR. BUFFUM? IN LONDON?

A: NO. BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT IT DIDN'T TAKE PLACE TODAY, AS THERE WAS SOME INDICATION THAT IT WOULD, HE IS STILL HERE.

Q: YOU WERE ASKED WHETHER THIS CONSTITUTES RECOGNITION OF THE NEW CYPRUS GOVERNMENT. DOES WHAT YOU SAID CONSTITUTE RECOGNITION OF THE NEW GREEK GOVERNMENT?

A: ON THE QUESTION OF THE SITUATION IN ATHENS, I MAKE THE SAME COMMENT: "THE QUESTION OF RECOGNITION DOES NOT ARISE." AND WE ARE DEALING WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT AND LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH IT.

Q: WHEN DID YOU START DEALING WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT?

A: I CAN'T GIVE YOU THE ANSWER ON EXACTLY WHEN, BUT WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT THERE. I UNCLASSIFIED

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CAN'T GIVE YOU THE EXACT TIME. I JUST DON'T KNOW.

Q: WAS THERE ANY CONTACT BETWEEN EITHER UNDER SECRETARY SISCO OR THE SECRETARY WITH KARAMANLIS BEFORE HIS COMING TO POWER IN GREECE?

A: TO MY KNOWLEDGE, NO.

Q: HOW ABOUT AFTER?

A: I'M UNAWARE OF ANY CONTACT SINCE HE HAS RETURNED TO ATHENS BY THE SECRETARY OR MR. SISCO.

ONE THING I WOULD LIKE TO SAY BY WAY OF BACKGROUND TO YOU IS THAT A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE HAS BEEN SENT FORWARD

TO ATHENS TO KARAMANLIS.

Q: MESSAGE OF WHAT? CONGRATULATIONS OR WHAT?

A: WELL, I DON'T WANT TO AT THIS STAGE GET INTO THE SUBSTANCE OF THE MESSAGE. BUT A MESSAGE HAS BEEN SENT, AND I HOPE YOU'LL BE HEARING ABOUT IT SHORTLY.

Q: THAT IS FROM THE WHITE HOUSE?

A: YES.

Q: COULD YOU TELL US ABOUT MR. BUFFUM'S TRAVEL PLANS?

A: AT THE MOMENT HE IS STILL HERE, AS I MENTIONED EARLIER. AND AS TO WHEN HE WILL GO TO, PRESUMABLY TO LONDON AND THEN AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED ON TO GENEVA, THAT IS NOT SET YET BECAUSE WE ARE WAITING TO SEE IF THE CONFERENCE WILL TAKE PLACE TOMORROW.

Q: YESTERDAY THERE WERE INDICATIONS HERE IN YOUR BRIEFING THAT HE MIGHT BE INVITED AS AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT. DID ANY SUCH INVITATION REACH YOU?

A: NO. NO, YESTERDAY -- AND THIS WAS AN EXCHANGE BETWEEN MR. BINDER AND MYSELF -- THIS WAS ON SPECULATION.  
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AND THEN STU HENSLEY, VERY CORRECTLY, SAID THAT THE TERMS OF REFERENCE, OBVIOUSLY, AT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE WOULD HAVE TO BE CHANGED FOR SUCH AN EVENT TO TAKE PLACE-- TO HAVE US PARTICIPATE. BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO SUCH PROPOSAL FORWARDED TO US. IF ONE WERE, WE WOULD EXAMINE IT. AND I JUST LEAVE IT THERE. END QUOTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, RECOGNITION, PRESS CONFERENCES, POLITICAL SITUATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE161052  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** MWJERABEK/VRM  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 4  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27 AUG 2002 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <21 JAN 2003 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING JULY 24 - CYPRUS FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT NOON PRESS BRIEFING  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CY, US  
**To:** NATO POSTS MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005